**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appln. No: 10/615,196  
Applicant: Brian E. Dalton  
Filed: July 7, 2003  
Title: SPINAL STABILIZATION IMPLANT AND METHOD OF APPLICATION  
T.C./A.U.: 3731  
Examiner: Daniel J. Davis

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (RP) submitted herewith. A copy of the references listed on the 1449 form is not required to be enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jonathan H. Spadt, Reg. No. 45,122  
Ellen E. Fielitz, Reg. No. 54,746  
Attorneys for Applicant

JHS/EEF/krh

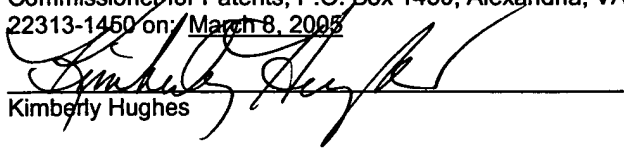
Enclosure: PTO Form 1449

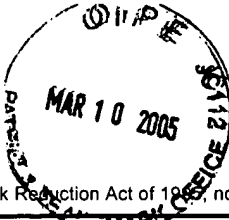
Dated: March 8, 2005

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

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# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

## Complete if Known

Application Number	10/615,196
Filing Date	July 7, 2003
First Named Inventor	Brian E. Dalton
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Daniel J. Davis
Attorney Docket No.	BBM-115US

SHEET 1 of 2

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	4	US-4,463,753	08-07-1984	Gustilo	
	5	US-4,484,570	11-27-1984	Sutter et al.	
	6	US-5,147,363	09-15-1992	Härle	
	7	US-5,520,690	05-28-1996	Errico et al.	
	8	US-5,531,746	07-02-1996	Errico et al.	
	9	US-5,607,426	03-04-1997	Ralph et al.	
	10	US-5,669,911	09-23-1997	Errico et al.	
	11	US-5,735,853	04-07-1998	Olerud	
	12	US-5,749,916	05-12-1998	Richelsoph	
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**SHEET 2 of 2****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	49	US-6,780,186 B2	04-18-2002	Errico et al.	
	50	US-6,402,752 B2	06-11-2002	Schäffler-Wachter et al.	
	51	US-6,712,819 B2	07-25-2002	Zucherman et al.	
	52	US-6,428,542 B1	08-06-2002	Michelson	
	53	US-6,451,021 B1	09-17-2002	Ralph et al.	
	54	US-6,514,260 B1	02-04-2003	Zdeblick et al.	
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	56	US-6,527,776 B1	03-04-2003	Michelson	
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	62	US-6,599,290 B2	07-29-2003	Bailey et al.	
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	77	US-2004/0127897 A1	07-01-2004	Freid et al.	
	78	US-2004/0133207 A1	07-08-2004	Abdou	
Examiner Signature					Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

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